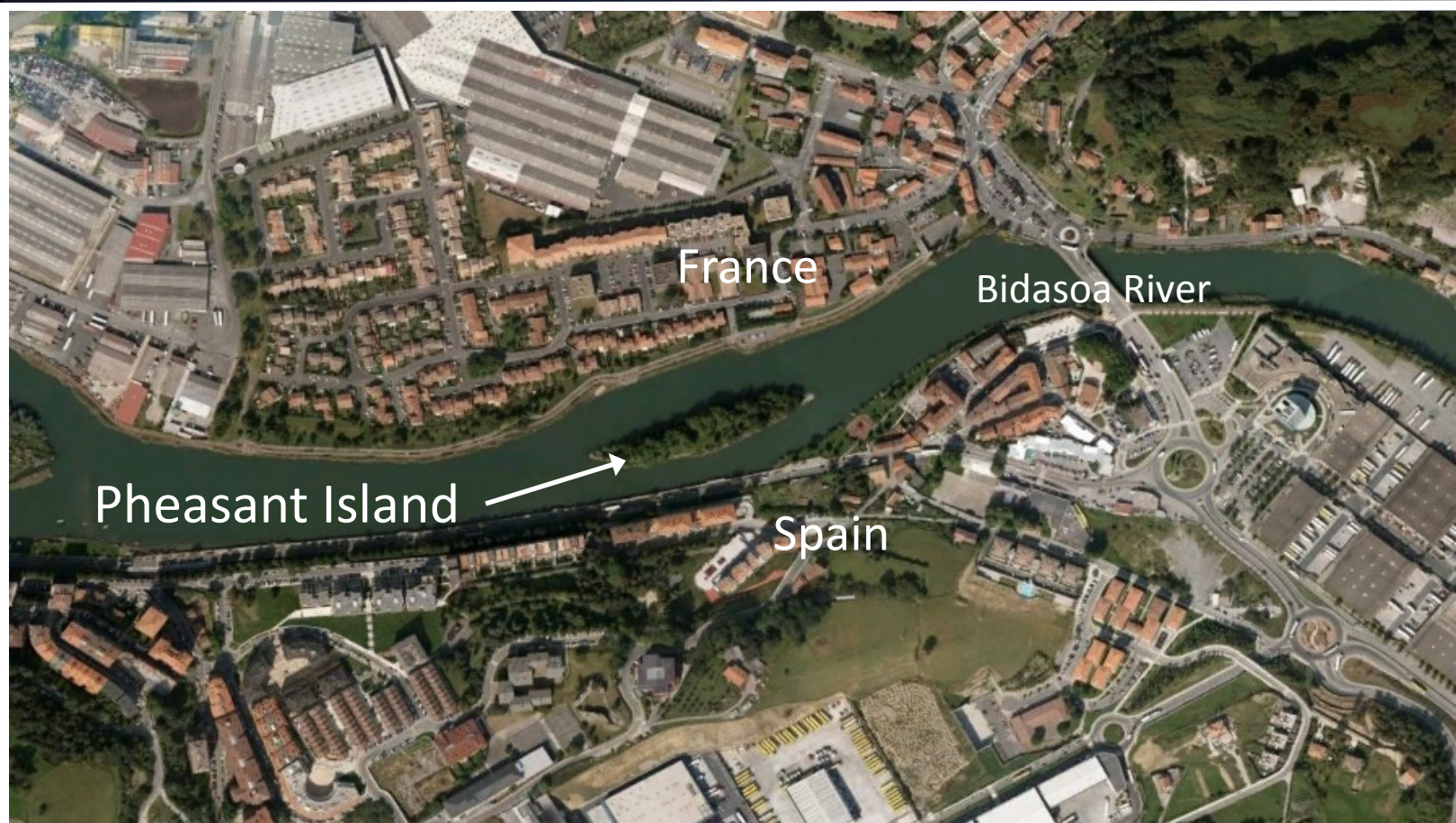


San Diego DX Club Bulletin



March 2012



FEBRUARY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2012

AT THE SIZZLER STEAK HOUSE

3755 MURPHY CANYON ROAD, SUITE S

SAN DIEGO, CA 92123

SOCIAL HOUR: 5:00 PM DINNER: 5:30 PM

MEETING: 6:30 PM

Program: Bob Grimmick, N6OX will present the
T32C DXpedition

A Word from the Prez	2
Secretary's Report	3
SDDXC Top 10	3
Deleted Entities Chase	4
Cover Story	5
Contest Calendar	6



President:

John Barcroft, K6AM

(858) 587-8061

k6am@arrl.net

Vice President:

John Graf, WA6L

jmgraf@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer:

Ellen Utschig, N6UWW

(760) 721-2927

elenalaloca@cox.net

Past President:

Gayle Olson, K6GO

(858) 673-9201

k6go@arrl.net

Board of Directors:

Harry Hodges, W6YOO

(760) 743-4212

w6yoo@cox.net

Bob Grimmick, N6OX

(949) 573-1070

n6ox@yahoo.com

Les Nuhn, NN6K

(619) 467-4510

rttyman@aol.com

Ladder:

John Barcroft, K6AM

k6am@arrl.net

Webmaster:

Arnie Lewin, W7BIA

Historian:

Glenn Rattmann, K6NA

(760) 749-3936

k6na@cts.com

Bulletin Editor:

Bob Farkaly, K9RHY

(858) 674-4618

rfarkaly@san.rr.com

A Word from the Prez . . .

John Barcroft, K6AM



Thanks to all who came out for the January meeting. The place was packed even though a few of the regular North County folks were missing. Thanks on behalf of Bob, N6OX to those of you who kicked in for his HKØNA trip. I hear they made around 200,000 QSO's this time. Hope you got through, since this may be the last chance for a long while.

The planning for Visalia is progressing nicely. John, WA6L has filled most of the slots for volunteers to work the registration table. The club makes the largest share of our annual income from our share of the proceeds from Visalia, so your help goes a long way.

If you haven't registered yet, go to dxconvention.org to sign up. They just finally announced the procedure for reserving a seat at the Saturday night banquet. It will be by e-mail again (see web site), but they don't say you can't ask for a certain area or a table with another group. Some like to take their chances and get placed with someone they haven't met yet. In any case, make your seating registration NOW so you won't get stuck way in the back.

If you ordered a Honda EU-2000i generator, with Larry, N6NC, we expect shipment in 2 or 3 months. Those who did not pay for individual shipping may come to my QTH and pick yours up or we will bring them to a meeting if you can wait that long.

As I write this on Feb 13, I'm heading out the door on the way to ZF2AM for the ARRL DX CW and CQWW 160M SSB contests. Then it's on to PJ2T for ARRL DX SSB. I'll be on the lookout for club members on all bands. CU in the pileups.

73, John

DX Is!!

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

Secretary's Report

Ellen, N6UWW



San Diego DX Club

January 25, 2012

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President John Barcroft, K6AM.

Visitors and new members* were welcomed and introduced: Bo, N7BK, Ulla, K7AFB, Noel, N6NVE*, Mark, N6NNI* and Bill, N7VM*

SDDXC Member Bob Grimmick, N6OX, is on the team currently at Malpelo Island as HK0NA. Donations were requested to help offset the group's expenses for the DXpedition. The first five people who gave \$20 received HK0NA patches. \$140 was collected.

Larry Serra, N6NC, gave a report on the availability of Honda generators for purchase by club members. Prices are as follows: 2Kw \$845 w/ free shipping to group drop site @ John Barcroft, K6AM's house (\$25 additional to ship to your QTH), 3Kw \$1750 + \$150 shipping, 6.5Kw \$3400 + \$150 shipping. Generators come with a 3 year warranty. A minimum order of 20 is needed and there are 17 ordered to date. All interested parties should contact Larry for further details as soon as possible. Order cut-off date is 2/15/2012. Leon Helms, N6VS, will handle the generator fund monies apart from Club monies and all payments for generators should be sent to him.

Larry Serra, N6NC, reminded the Club that as election time nears we should keep in mind those City Council members who have been "friendly" in our antenna ordinance issue. Sherry Lightner was especially helpful to our cause and we should individually consider aiding her election effort.

President John Barcroft, K6AM, read a letter from Jerry Carter, W6JAC, thanking the Club for honoring her husband Harry Hodges, W6YOO, with the induction into the SDDXC Hall of Fame at the Holiday Party.

Vice-President John Graf, WA6L, reminded the club that the Club is responsible for staffing the registration table at the convention at Visalia in April. Volunteers were strong-armed and inked in on John's schedule.

A video presentation of the VP8ORK DXpedition followed the Round Table discussion.

73, Ellen

The SDDXC Top 10

John, K6AM



TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 10 METERS

2/12	2/11	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	?	?	339	+5
2.	2.	N6ND	40	270	277	331	+6
3.	4.	K6AM	40	316	323	325	+5
5.	5.	N6CW	40	?	289	320	-
5.	-	N0RR		307	316	316	NEW
6.	7.	W6YI	40	268	274	300	+16
6.	6.	W6YOO	40	286	292	292	+2
8.	9	K6ZH	39	246	252	274	+14
9.	10.	N7CW	40	224	224	259	+5
10.	-	WN6K	40	210	216	255	NEW

TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 40 METERS

2/12	2/11	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	336	346	347	+1
2.	2.	N6ND	40	296	303	343	+1
3.	-	N0RR	40	325	336	336	NEW
4.	3.	K6AM	40	325	331	335	+1
5.	8.	N7CW	40	315	315	329	+13
6.	5.	N6CW	40	?	276	323	-
7.	9.	W6YI	40	308	312	321	+6
8.	6.	K6XT	40	284	290	318	-
9.	10.	K6ZH	39	267	272	291	+11
10.	-	K6KT	40	121	123	268	NEW

Ten meters just busted out last year producing a veritable cornucopia of new ones for almost everyone. Some more very nice jumps in score come from those who reported their new PJ and ST0 contacts. Our February champ, Jim, W6YA holds on handily to the top spot on both 10 and 40. He should be able to keep both for several more years. Don't be left behind, get your latest scores to me as soon as you have those new ones.

Congrats this month go out to our 2011 Rookie of the Year, Wild Bill Wiederhold, WB6BFG. For the third year in a row, Bill worked more new ones than any other member with 34 in the plus column.

Each month, we will publish top ten lists for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 80, 20, 15 meters, and then the WARC bands. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

73, John



The Deleted Entities Chase

By Jim Mc Cook, W6YA

As with most OT DXers, I've become more interested in the history of DX over the past few years, especially after reading the W6AM book a few times. I recently visualized a new project, which improved my knowledge of world history with ham radio. I was curious to know how many of the deleted entities I have worked after they were deleted.

If you're only interested in "keeping score of entities worked," you will probably not be interested.

If you worked a German ham in Saarbrücken, you have worked the old 9S4 area. If you worked a Chinese ham with a "2" in the prefix, you worked the old Manchuria. Most likely you have worked stations in all the old PK areas of Indonesia. You quickly find that you have worked most places on the deleted list, but there are a few that you probably have missed.

There are 21 deleted entities that I never worked before their deletion, mostly because of my own inactivity between 1960 and 1968. I wondered how many of those areas I've actually worked. I went through my QSLs to find out. What I found was most interesting.

I had never worked stations in six of the deleted group: 1M (Minerva Reef), 8Z5 (Kuwait-Saudi Neutral Zone), CR8 (Damao-Diu), FN8 (French India), VS9H (Kuria Maria), VS9K (Kamran I.). Incidentally, I found only one VU QSL from Goa, the old CR8/Goa.

It was my goal to work those six areas, even though they are deleted as entities.

After checking with 9K2HN, it turned out that 9K2UU is intermittently active from Khiran, in the old 8Z5 Neutral Zone, alternating with his home station in Kuwait City. We arranged a QSO, and I was surprised to hear him 5-9+ on 20m SSB. Only 5 to go.

Apparently there is nobody active from Daman or Diu Island, but one of these days there will be. Daman is only about 100 miles north of Mumbai, so it should be possible. Diu Island could be interesting as a new IOTA. The only contacts made from that area before the 1961 deletion were the 55 QSOs made in 1948 by W6ODD/CR8. There were no operations from Daman (Damao in Portuguese).

French India was scattered among several areas along the east coast of India. The biggest concentration of amateurs is in Pondicherry. Interestingly, VU2AX (the original FN8AD) is still shown on QRZ.com as living in the same place as he did during his FN8 days. Nobody seems to know if he's still alive. Since there are at least a dozen hams in Pondicherry, this one should be possible. One day I'll find one.

The other three will be more difficult.

Since the Minerva Reefs were claimed by Tonga, there have been no operations. Minerva is a frequent stop for yachters traveling from Tonga to New Zealand. Fiji does not recognize the Tongan claim of this area, and the issue is still under dispute. If Fiji eventually were to assume the claim over Minerva, it might become a regular entity again on the DXCC list.

There was a 1990 operation on Kuria Maria (formerly VS9H) by a group of Oman amateurs (it's now part of Oman), which I somehow missed. Perhaps this will be active again as an IOTA operation.

Since Kamran (formerly VS9K) is part of Yemen, it's unlikely there will be an operation there any time soon.

In the process of studying the history of all the entities on the deleted list, it has been a most interesting view of geographic history around parts of the world. As hams, we naturally have this interest, but the deleted list is an interesting window into the past operations in our hobby. This project has really sparked my interest in DX.

If you're looking for something new to do with your DX chasing, I highly recommend this as a fun and educational project. One thing is certain: The more deleted ones you missed, the more fulfilling this project will be.





Cover Story and Editor's Rambling

Bob Farkaly, K9RHY

Last August, I wrote about the emergence of a "Recycled New One" – South Sudan, ST0. I wrote: "What is now the Republic of South Sudan was originally part of the British and Egyptian condominium of Anglo-Egyptian Sudan (a *condominium* is a political territory over which two or more sovereign powers formally agree to share control equally and exercise their rights jointly, without dividing the territory up into "national" zones)."

I started looking for more such "arrangements" because there may be "undiscovered" New Ones posing as condominiums. Indeed, I wondered how the ARRL DXCC desk might look at condominiums today. So I thought the SDDXC gang might enjoy some of the geographic trivia I uncovered while researching the topic.

Pheasant Island

You are not allowed to visit Pheasant Island. It lies near the Atlantic Ocean end of the French-Spanish border in the middle of the Bidasoa River. Border enthusiasts can only wonder about the inscription on the white monolith that graces the island.

That monument commemorates the Treaty of the Pyrenees, concluded on the island in 1659. It fixed the Franco-Spanish border, following the mountain chain of that name as the natural boundary between the two countries. But tiny Pheasant Island is more than the place where that treaty was signed.

Like Scarborough Reef, Pheasants' Island (*Île aux Faisans*) aka Conference Island (*Île de la Conférence*) is claimed by more than one country. In this case, Spain and France.

The island once served as a place for diplomatic meetings between France and Spain. Louis XI met there Henry IV of Castile in 1463; in 1526, Francis I, captured by the Spaniards in Pavia, was exchanged there against his two sons; in 1615, Elisabeth, Louis XIII's sister, to be married with the Infant of Spain (later Philip IV) and Ann of Austria, the Infant's sister, to be married with Louis XIII, met there.

The most famous event involving the island was the Treaty of Pyrenees, signed in 1659 by Mazarin for France and Luis Méndez de Haro for Spain, ending the Franco-Spanish war that had broken out in 1635. Spain ceded to France the Provinces of Roussillon and Artois, as well as several fortified towns in the north. The Treaty further stated that Louis XIV would marry Maria-Theresia, Philip IV's daughter. She would abandon her rights on the Spanish throne for a dowry of 500,000 golden crowns.

The island was revamped for the marriage, celebrated in the spring of 1560. The marriage pavilion was decorated by the famous Spanish artist Diego Vélasquez, who caught a cold and died a few weeks later. Since the King of Spain, according to the protocol of the time, was not allowed to leave Spanish soil, the pavilion was divided by an imaginary line into a Spanish half and a French half.

As you might imagine, maintaining a condominium depends on the cooperation of all parties involved — and historically most condominiums have not survived very long.

Pheasant Island is not only the oldest surviving condominium, it is also the only one where sovereignty isn't shared simultaneously, but alternately. For six months a year, Pheasant Island is French; for the other six, it is Spanish.

In the more than three and a half centuries since the treaty, the island has passed back and forth over 700 times between both countries. It is like the ball in an extremely slow tennis game between France and Spain.

The shared sovereignty, in particular, might make Pheasant Island an interesting DXCC Entity.

Llivia

Llivia is a Spanish town that is actually in France. It's a small town of about 5 square miles (13 sq km), situated less than a mile (about 1km) from the Spanish border and is connected to the rest of Spain by a single, small road. The Wikipedia lists its current population as 1,589 but the town's website says it's 903. But whatever Llivia's population may be, it's historically important that it be considered a *town* rather than a *village*.

The town/village designation is important because the 1659 Treaty of the Pyrénées (that ceded certain Spanish territory to France in an effort to set the official frontier between the countries) didn't include Llivia because it was called a "town" and not a "village".

According to the terms of the treaty, the border was to run along the main crest of the Pyrénées, and all *villages* north of that line were to become part of France. Spain insisted that, according to the letter of the law, Llívia must be excluded from French rule because it was not a village but a *town*—and that’s why Spain continued to control a parcel of land entirely inside France. A legal loophole!

In 1868, the border between the two countries was surveyed and marked with hundreds of border markers, including 45 just for Llívia. Most of these markers are simple chunks of stone, numbered consecutively and marked with “LL” on the Llívia side and initials representing the nearest French village on the French side. A few markers were made by carving numbers and letters into existing rocks. Locating and photographing these markers with the aid of maps and GPS receivers has become a common tourist pastime.



Despite the seemingly conclusive nature of the border markers, and despite the fact that Llívia is just a stone’s throw from the Spanish border, the two countries have tangled over the details of the border numerous times, with little pieces of land going back and forth according to the terms of the most recent lawsuit. One conflict involved the short road connecting Llívia to the rest of Spain: it was supposed to be neutral, but a French road crossed it. Each country felt its citizens should have right of way at the intersection, and ignored the other’s stop signs. Eventually an overpass had to be built, at Spain’s expense, to make the issue moot. At another, smaller intersection, a similar conflict was resolved by constructing a roundabout.

Que Parla el Català?

When I visited Llívia’s official Web site, <http://www.llivia.org/> I assumed it would be in Spanish. The text had a familiar look to it, but some of the words appeared to be Spanish while others appeared to be French. Google Translator, however, told me I was actually looking at neither Spanish nor French, but rather Catalan, one of the three official languages of the region of Spain known as Catalonia. Catalonia, which also encompasses Barcelona, is one of Spain’s 17 autonomous communities, with its own government and police force and considerable latitude to function, in many respects, independently of the nation as a whole. So perhaps culturally speaking, Llívia may be more of a Catalanian enclave than a Spanish enclave, but since Catalonia is not a separate DXCC entity, it’s a moot point as far as this narrative is concerned.

Other Condominiums

Denmark and Canada have repeatedly exchanged harsh words over Hans Island, near Greenland, which is a part of the Kingdom of Denmark. Officials of both countries have visited the island, waving and planting their respective flags.

Japan and Russia shared the island of Sakhalin from 1855-1875 as a result of the Russo-Japanese Treaty of Shimoda. In 1875 the Meiji government traded its interests and claims in Sakhalin for the entire Kuril island chain. Then as a result of the Russo-Japanese war (1904-05), took over the southern half of Sakhalin, but this time did not share sovereignty. Subsequent proposals for settling the Northern Territories issue have generally focused on "splitting the difference":

Japan taking Shikotan and the Habomai islands, and Russia keeping clear title to the other two. There was some Soviet interest in that approach in 1956 and again in the 1960s but in each case Japan over-played its diplomatic hand, and the issue remains unresolved.

Late February and March 2012 DX Contests				
Contest	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
CQ 160 Meter Contest, SSB	24-Feb	2200Z	26-Feb	2159Z
ARRL DX Phone	3-Mar	0000Z	4-Mar	2359Z
Russian DX Contest	17-Mar	1200Z	18-Mar	1200Z

73, Bob